IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 7, line 8, change "5" to --5, which consists of Figs. 5A - 5E,--.

Page 8, line 4, change "13" to --13, which consists of Figs. 13A - 13D,--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 66, 67, 73, 74, 80, 81, 83, 85, 88, 89, 91-95 and 98-105 as follows:

66. (Twice Amended) An outline forming apparatus comprising:

storing means for storing pattern data which includes coordinate data corresponding to a first outline point of a pattern having a first weight, and vector information corresponding to the first outline point, the vector information [indicating] including a function of weight, which indicates a curve of second degree or more on which the first outline point moves to a second outline point of a pattern having a second weight;

input means for inputting weight;

[converting means for converting the coordinate data corresponding to the first outline point into coordinate data corresponding to a third outline point of] generating means for obtaining a moved outline point by

moving the first outline point based on the input weight and said function, and generating an outline of a pattern having the input weight based on the [vector information] moved outline point.

67. (Twice Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 66, further comprising output means for outputting [a pattern having the input weight, based on coordinate data corresponding to a third outline point obtained by said converting means] the pattern generated by said generating means.

73. (Twice Amended) An outline forming method for an apparatus which stores pattern data which includes coordinate data corresponding to a first outline point of a pattern having a first weight, and vector information corresponding to the first outline point, the vector information [indicating] including a function of weight, which indicates a curve of second degree or more on which the first outline point moves to a second outline point of a pattern having a second weight, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting weight of a pattern; and

[converting the coordinate data corresponding to the first outline point into coordinate data corresponding to a third outline point] obtaining a moved outline point by

moving the first outline point based on the input weight and said function, and generating an outline of a pattern having the input weight based on the [vector information] moved outline point.

74. (Twice Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 73, further comprising an output step of outputting [a pattern having the input weight, based on the outline data obtained in said converting step] the pattern generated by said generating means.

80. (Twice Amended) A computer readable medium storing computer program code for controlling an apparatus which stores pattern data which includes coordinate data corresponding to a first outline point of a pattern having a first weight, and vector information corresponding to the first outline point, the vector information [indicating] a curve of second degree or more on which the first outline point moves to a second outline point of a pattern having a second weight, said program code comprising:

input process procedure code for inputting weight of a pattern; and

[converting] generating procedure code [for converting the coordinate data corresponding to the first outline point into coordinate data corresponding to a third outline point] obtaining a moved outline point by moving the

first outline point based on the input weight and said function, and generating an outline of a pattern having the input weight based on the [vector information] moved outline point.

81.   (Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 66, further comprising sending means for sending coordinate data corresponding to the [third] moved outline point, obtained by said [converting] generating means.

83.   (Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 73, further comprising the step of sending coordinate data corresponding to the [third] moved outline point, obtained in said [converting] obtaining step.

85.   (Amended) An outline forming apparatus comprising:

storing means for storing pattern data which includes coordinate data corresponding to a first outline point of a pattern having a first weight, and vector information corresponding to the first outline point, the vector information indicating a path on which the first outline point moves to a second outline point of a pattern having a second weight, said vector information including a plurality of [vector data] functions of weight, which

indicate a plurality of different lines [comprising] defining the path, and the vector information including change information indicating which [vector data] function is to be used for each weight;

input means for inputting weight of a pattern;

[obtaining] determination means for [obtaining vector data] determining a function to be used based on the change information and the input weight; and

[converting means for converting the coordinate data corresponding to the first outline point into coordinate data corresponding to a third outline point of a pattern having the input weight based on the vector data obtained by said obtaining means]

generating means for obtaining a moved outline point by moving the first outline point based on the input weight and the function determined to be used, and generating an outline of a pattern having the input weight based on the moved outline point.

88. (Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 85, wherein the vector information includes [vector data] a function of weight indicating a straight line and [vector data] a function of weight indicating a curve of second degree or more.

89. (Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 85, further comprising output means for outputting [a pattern having the input weight, based on coordinate data corresponding to the third outline point generated by said converting means] the pattern generated by said generating means.

91. (Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 85, wherein said [converting] generating means [converts coordinate data] obtains the moved outline point when [vector data] a function for the input weight exists.

92. (Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 85, wherein said storing means stores degree information [indicates] indicating degree of a function [represented by each of the plurality of vector data].

93. (Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 92, wherein the degree information includes information indicating that coordinate data of an outline point does not change in conjunction with weight.

94. (Amended) The outline forming apparatus according to Claim 85, wherein the change information

indicates a weight value at which the [vector data] <u>function</u>
is changed.

95. (Amended) An outline forming method utilizing
storing means for storing pattern data which includes
coordinate data corresponding to a first outline point of a
pattern having a first weight, and vector information
corresponding to the first outline point, the vector
information indicating a path on which the first outline
point moves to a second outline point of a pattern having a
second weight, the vector information including a plurality
of [vector data] <u>functions of weight,</u> which indicate a
plurality of different lines [comprising] <u>defining</u> the path,
and the vector information including change information
indicating which [vector data] <u>function</u> is to be used for
each weight, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting weight of a pattern;

[obtaining vector data] <u>determining a function to
be used</u> based on the change information and the input weight;

[converting the coordinate data corresponding to
the first outline point into coordinate data corresponding to
a third outline point of a pattern having the input weight
based on the vector data obtained in said obtaining step]

<u>obtaining a moved outline point by moving the first
outline point based on the input weight and the function</u>

<u>determined to be used, and generating an outline of a pattern having the input weight based on the moved outline point</u>.

98. (Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 95, wherein the vector information includes [vector data] <u>a function of weight</u> indicating a straight line and [vector data] <u>a function of weight</u> indicating a curve of second degree or more.

99. (Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 95, further comprising the step of outputting [a pattern having the input weight, based on coordinate data corresponding to the third outline point generated in said converting step] <u>the pattern generated in said obtaining and generating step</u>.

101. (Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 95, wherein said [converting] <u>obtaining and generating</u> step includes [converting coordinate data] <u>obtaining the moved outline point</u> when [vector data] <u>a function</u> for the input weight exists.

102. (Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 95, wherein said storing [means] <u>step</u> includes storing degree information [indicates] <u>indicating</u>

degree of a function [represented by each of the plurality of vector data].

103. (Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 102, wherein the degree information includes information indicating that coordinate data _of an outline point_ does not change in conjunction with weight.

104. (Amended) The outline forming method according to Claim 95, wherein the change information indicates a weight value at which the [vector data] _function_ is changed.

105. (Amended) A computer readable medium storing computer program code for an outline forming process which utilizes stored pattern data which includes coordinate data corresponding to a first outline point of a pattern having a first weight, and vector information corresponding to the first outline point, the vector information indicating a path on which the first outline point moves to a second outline point of a pattern having a second weight, the vector information including a plurality of [vector data] _functions_ _of weight,_ which indicate a plurality of different lines [comprising] _defining_ the path_,_ and the vector information including change information indicating which [vector data]

function is to be used for each weight, said program code comprising:

input process procedure code for inputting weight of a pattern;

[obtaining] determining process procedure code for [obtaining vector data] determining a function to be used based on the change information and the input weight;

[converting process procedure code for converting the coordinate data corresponding to the first outline point into coordinate data corresponding to a third outline point of a pattern having the input weight based on the vector data obtained by said obtaining process procedure code]

obtaining-and-generating procedure code for obtaining a moved outline point by moving the first outline point based on the input weight and the function determined to be used, and generating an outline of a pattern having the input weight based on the moved outline point.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 19, 1999. Claims 66-68, 70, 71, 73-75, 77, 78 and 80-105 remain in this application. Claims 66, 67, 73, 74, 80, 81, 83, 85, 88, 89, 91-95 and 98-105 have been amended in terms which more clearly define what Applicant regards as his invention. Claims 66, 73, 80, 85,